

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2020
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1132

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 19, 2020
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Wayne
One Liner: Change provisions relating to net metering

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Albrecht, Bostelman, Geist, Gragert, Halloran, Hughes, Moser, Quick

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Justin Wayne
Shane Osborn
Michael J O'Hara

Representing:

Introducer
RWH Energy
Sierra Club

Opponents:

Chet McWhorter

Scott Benson
Shelley Sahling-Zart
Michael Shonka
John Hansen
Robert Best

Representing:

Cuming County Public Power District and Nebraska Rural Electric Association
Lincoln Electric System
Nebraska Power Association
Solar Heat and Electric
Nebraska Farmers Union
self

Neutral:

Edison McDonald

Representing:

GC Revolt

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1132 would amend sections 70-2001, 70-2002, and 70-2003 to increase the capacity threshold for electrical net metering customer-generators, provide for additional permissible generation sources for net metering, and create a new rate class for net metered customer-generators.

Section by section summary:

Section 1 would amend section 70-2001 to make Legislative declarations that customers have a right to make substantial

use of net metering, and that net metering enhances the efficiency and reliability of the existing electrical grid; renumber sections.

Section 2 would amend section 70-2002 to:

Allow a utility to charge customer-generators a fixed net metering fee not to exceed the cost of calculating their net metering credits plus 10%; prohibit the utility from charging other net metering fees; eliminate other fees for customer generators;

Allow customer-generators to generate electricity using any form of generation technology;

Use a customer-generator's average monthly energy usage for previous calendar year to calculate a customer-generator's allowed generation level;

Strike the existing qualified facility maximum rated capacity threshold of 25 kilowatts; instead allow customer-generators to have a rated capacity of up to 110% of their average annual use, and allow a local distribution system to reduce a customer-generator's rated capacity down to 75% the customer-generator's average monthly usage if the generation is in excess of the customer's average monthly usage and the utility can show a risk to its distribution system or grid;

Require customer-generators to provide an accessible disconnect switch at their own expense.

Section 3 would amend section 70-2003 to:

Increase the overall system cap for net metering projects from 1% to 5% of a utility's average monthly peak demand;

Strike language which prevented local distribution utilities from requiring customer-generators to purchase additional liability insurance, and set new insurance requirements for customer-generators based on their level of generation;

Remove the 25 kilowatt capacity threshold and insert a capacity limit for customer-generators of 110% of annual usage;

Require local distribution utilities to designate a contact person for net metering questions and to make additional net metering information available to customers;

Require local distribution facilities to adopt standards governing the installation, interconnection, and other net metering requirements for various customer-generator categories up to 5 megawatts.

Section 4 repeals the original sections.

Dan Hughes, Chairperson